

and as a result, we have to recognize the fact that when we, years ago, enacted requirements for immunization for children in our schools, to try and protect those children from one another in the spread of disease, that we now need to recognize that many of our children are coming in contact with one another outside of the family at a very young age. And, so, this bill would extend the immunization requirements that we now have in place for our schools into childhood programs, thus children would have to be immunized for measles, mumps, rubella, polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and Type B influenza. However, we do provide, and Senator Moore will be pleased with this, an exemption. If a parent doesn't want to have immunization, they are free to simply write a letter identifying that fact and they don't have to have the immunization. Now, one would suggest that this is not really a good option to provide because every child should be immunized to protect, not only themselves, but protect others from them being a carrier. However, by having this mandate of a written request to be exempted, we do identify which children could be vulnerable to these diseases and so we are able to identify high-risk children, if we do have an outbreak, for instance, of rubella or something. So, at this point, I would ask for advancement of LB 472. I think and the committee feels that it would do a great deal to help the health of our children in this state.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Any discussion on the advancement of the bill? Seeing none, the question is, shall LB 472 be advanced to E & R Initial? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 472 is advanced. We will return to LB 229, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, 229 was a bill introduced by Senators Wesely and Vard Johnson. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 13 of this year, referred to the Health and Human Services Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments at this time to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Will you please handle the bill, Senator Wesely?